

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 9, 24 and 26 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter and amend the claims as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A receiving apparatus comprising:

a reception unit constructed to receive content data and content list data via a network, the content list data including information, which includes a content name, for specifying each of a plurality of receivable contents data on the receiving apparatus;

a content processing unit constructed to process the content data received by the reception unit to generate video and audio data;

a generating unit constructed to generate a content list based on the content list data received by the reception unit, for displaying the content name of each of the plurality of receivable contents data in a list format;

an output unit constructed to output the content list generated by the generating unit, and the video and audio data to a display apparatus; and

a control unit constructed to estimate a time until each of the content data ~~the video and audio data~~ becomes viewable, based on processing of ~~the received~~ each of the content data included in the content list, and to generate link information with an associated ranking indicating easiness of connection based on the estimated time,

wherein the generating unit generates the content list which relates the link information of each content data to the content name of each ~~so as to display information as to the estimated time in relation to the information for specifying the content data.~~

2. (Currently Amended) A receiving apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the control unit detects at least one of a first time required for a procedure for connecting to a distribution source of the content data and a second time required for receiving a predetermined amount of the content data, and

the generating unit generates information as to at least one of the first time and the second time or a total time of the first time and the second time in relation to the information for ~~specifying~~ the content name of each content data.

3. (Previously Presented) A receiving apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the control unit compares the detected times with a predetermined threshold value, and the generating unit generates the content list so as to display a result of the comparison.

4. (Previously Presented) A receiving apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the control unit compares the detected times with plural threshold values, which are different from each other.

5. (Previously Presented) A receiving apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the control unit controls the reception unit so as to execute processing for connection to a distribution destination of the content data and detects the first time and the second time based upon the processing for connection.

6. (Previously Presented) A receiving apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the control unit judges that reception is impossible in the case in which a time required for a procedure for connection to a distribution destination of the content data has exceeded a predetermined time, and the generating unit generates the content list including information indicating that the reception is impossible.

7. (Previously Presented) A receiving apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the control unit judges that reception is impossible in the case in which a time required for a procedure for receiving a predetermined amount of the content data has exceeded a predetermined time, and the generating unit generates the content list including information indicating that the reception is impossible.

8. (Previously Presented) A receiving apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the reception unit is capable of receiving N pieces of the content data in parallel with each other, and the control unit detects the time for the N pieces of the content data in parallel with each other, which are received by the reception unit in parallel with each other among the plural content data.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) A receiving apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the reception unit has a storage unit which is capable of storing a predetermined amount of the N pieces of the content data, respectively, and the control unit controls the

reception unit so as to store the predetermined N pieces of the content data among the plural content data in the storage unit.

11. to 15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A receiving method ~~for~~ performed by a receiving apparatus, comprising the steps of:

receiving content data and content list data via a network, the content list data including information, which includes a content name, for specifying each of a plurality of receivable contents data on the receiving apparatus;

processing the content data received by the receiving step, to generate video and audio data;

generating a content list, based on the content list data received in the receiving step, for displaying the content name of each of the plurality of receivable contents data in a list format;

outputting the generated content list, the video data, and the audio data to a display apparatus; and

estimating a time until each of the content data ~~the video and audio data~~ becomes viewable, based on processing of ~~the received~~ each of the content data included in the content list, and generating link information with an associated ranking indicating easiness of connection based on the estimated time,

wherein, in the generating step, the content list data is generated such that the link information of each content data is related to the content name of each ~~so as to~~

~~display information as to the estimated time in relation to the information for specifying~~
~~the~~ content data.

17. (Currently Amended) A receiving method according to claim 16, wherein, in the estimating step, at least one of a first time required for a procedure for connecting to a distribution source of the content data and a second time required for receiving a predetermined amount of the content data is detected, and

in the generating step, information as to at least one of the first time and the second time or a total time of the first time and the second time is generated in relation to the information for ~~specifying~~ the content name of each content data.

18. (Previously Presented) A receiving method according to claim 17, wherein, in the estimating step, the detected times are compared with a predetermined threshold value and the content list is generated so as to display a result of the comparison.

19. (Previously Presented) A receiving method according to claim 18, wherein, in the estimating step, the detected times are compared with plural threshold values, which are different from each other.

20. (Previously Presented) A receiving method according to claim 17, wherein, in the estimating step, the reception unit is controlled so as to execute processing for connection to a distribution destination of the content data and detects the first time and the second time based upon the processing for connection.

21. (Previously Presented) A receiving method according to claim 16, wherein, in the estimating step, it is judged that reception is impossible in the case in which a time required for a procedure for connection to a distribution destination of the content data has exceeded a predetermined time, and

in the generating step, the content list is generated to include information indicating that the reception is impossible.

22. (Previously Presented) A receiving method according to claim 16, wherein, in the estimating step, it is judged that reception is impossible in the case in which a time required for a procedure for receiving a predetermined amount of the content data has exceeded a predetermined time, and

in the generating step, the content list is generated to include information indicating that the reception is impossible.

23. (Previously Presented) A receiving method according to claim 16, wherein, in the receiving step, it is capable of receiving N pieces of the content data in parallel with each other, and the estimating step detects the time for the N pieces of the content data in parallel with each other, which are received in the receiving step in parallel with each other among the plural content data.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) A receiving method according to claim 23, wherein the receiving step comprises a storage step in which it is capable of storing a predetermined amount of the N pieces of the content data, respectively, and, in the estimating step, it is controlled to store the predetermined N pieces of the content data among the plural content data in a storage unit.

26. (Canceled)